

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-23. (Cancelled)

24. (New) A method of header compression in a communications network wherein a multicast/broadcast multimedia service is available over an air interface to a remote unit, and wherein a media flow of the multicast/broadcast multimedia service is subject to unidirectional header compression logic at a compressor, comprising the steps of:

receiving a request indicating that the remote unit seeks access to the multicast/broadcast multimedia service; and,

generating, in response thereto, a trigger signal, external to the header compression logic, which is applied to the compressor to trigger a lowest compression state of the header compression logic.

25. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein said trigger signal is generated prior to generation of an initial packet of the media flow.

26. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein, absent receipt of the request, the header compression logic is configured to start the lowest compression state upon receiving an initial packet of the media flow and is configured to refresh at the lowest compression state upon expiration of a timeout.

27. (New) The method of claim 24, further comprising the step of generating the trigger signal to trigger a transition to the lowest compression state of the header compression logic upon receipt of an indication of a decompression problem which has occurred at the remote unit.

28. (New) A method of header compression in a communications network wherein a multicast/broadcast multimedia service is available over an air interface to a remote unit, and wherein a media flow of the multicast/broadcast multimedia service is subject to unidirectional header compression logic at a compressor, comprising the steps of:

receiving an indication of a decompression problem which has occurred at the remote unit; and,

generating, in response thereto, a trigger signal, external to the header compression logic, which is applied to the compressor to trigger a lowest compression state of the header compression logic.

29. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the header compression logic is configured to perform robust header compression (ROHC) in a unidirectional mode and the lowest compression state is the Initialization and Refresh (IR) state.

30. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the decompression problem is compression initialization failure or compression static context damage.

31. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the indication of a decompression problem is an attempt by the remote unit to reinitiate access to the multicast/broadcast multimedia service.

32. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the trigger signal is derived using one or more broadcast/multicast channel acquisition events initiated by the remote unit.

33. (New) A communications network, comprising:

a multicast/broadcast multimedia server which makes a multicast/broadcast multimedia service available to a remote unit over an air interface;

a header compressor which subjects a media flow of the multicast/broadcast multimedia service to unidirectional header compression logic for compressing a headers of the media flow; and,

a network node which is operative, upon receiving a request indicating that the remote unit seeks access to the multicast/broadcast multimedia service, to generate, external to the header compression logic, a trigger signal which is applied to the compressor to trigger a lowest compression state of the header compression logic.

34. (New) The network of claim 33, wherein the network node generates the trigger signal prior to generation of an initial packet of the media flow.

35. (New) The network of claim 33, wherein, absent receipt of the external signal, the header compression logic is configured to start the lowest compression state upon receiving an initial packet of the media flow and is configured to refresh at the lowest compression state upon expiration of a timeout.

36. (New) The network of claim 33, wherein the network node also generates the trigger signal to trigger a transition to the lowest compression state of the header compression logic upon receipt of an indication of a decompression problem which has occurred at the remote unit.

37. (New) A communications network, comprising:

a multicast/broadcast multimedia server which makes a multicast/broadcast multimedia service available to a remote unit over an air interface;

a header compressor which subjects a media flow of the multicast/broadcast multimedia service to unidirectional header compression logic for compressing a headers of the media flow; and,

a network node which is operative, upon receiving an indication of a decompression problem which has occurred at the remote unit, to generate, external to the header compression logic, a trigger signal which is applied to the compressor to trigger a lowest compression state of the header compression logic.

38. (New) The network of claim 33, wherein the header compression logic is configured to perform robust header compression (ROHC) in a unidirectional mode and the lowest compression state is the Initialization and Refresh (IR) state.

39. (New) The network of claim 36, wherein the decompression problem is compression initialization failure or compression static context damage.

40. (New) The network of claim 39, wherein the indication of a decompression problem is an attempt by the remote unit to reinitiate access to the multicast/broadcast multimedia service.

41. (New) The network of claim 33, wherein the trigger signal is derived using one or more broadcast/multicast channel acquisition events initiated by the remote unit.

42. (New) The network of claim 33, wherein the network node which generates the trigger signal is a node at which the multicast/broadcast multimedia server resides.

43. (New) The network of claim 33, wherein the network node which generates the trigger signal is one of a packet data serving node node (PDSN).

44. (New) A remote unit which receives a multicast/broadcast multimedia service from a communications network over an air interface communications network, wherein a media flow of the multicast/broadcast multimedia service is subject to unidirectional header compression logic for compressing a headers of the media flow, the remote unit comprising:

a transceiver for receiving the media flow; and,

a decompressor which is operative, upon encountering a decompression problem with the media flow, to send a request to reinitiate access to the multicast/broadcast multimedia service to the communications network with an

expectation that the request to reinitiate access will trigger a lowest compression state of the header compression logic.

45. (New) The remote unit of claim 44, wherein the decompression problem is compression initialization failure or compression static context damage.

46. (New) The remote unit of claim 44, wherein the header compression logic is configured to perform robust header compression (ROHC) in a unidirectional mode and the lowest compression state is the Initialization and Refresh (IR) state.

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